AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace page 1, lines 4-6 with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

This application is based on Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-259709 filed on September 5, 2002~~, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference~~.

Please replace page 5, lines 1-13 with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

As shown in Fig. 2, the instrument panel 1 generally forms conditioning air blowing ports 1a at positions adjacent to right and left ends and substantially middle positions. The conditioning air is blown into the passenger compartment from the air blowing ports 1a. The instrument panel 1 also forms a notched portion 1b and an opening 1c on a driver seat side. A steering shaft is generally disposed to pass through the notched portion 1b. A meter unit is installed in the opening 1c. Further, the instrument panel 1 forms an opening 1d for a glove box [[1d]] on a passenger seat side and openings 1e for such as an air conditioner control panel or a vehicular audio unit in substantially a middle portion in a vehicle left and right direction. Further, the instrument panel 1 has an opening 1f for an ashtray below the openings 1e.

Please replace page 7, lines 21-27 and page 8, lines 1-2 with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

The case [[2c]] 2a, the guide portion 2c and the linear projection 2d are integrally molded into a single article. The air duct 3, the flange portion 3c and the U-shaped

portion 3d are integrally molded into a single article. Alternatively, the guide portion 2c and the linear projection 2d can be separately made by another material such as metal and can be fixed to the case 2a. Also, the flange portion 3c and the U-shaped portion 3d can be separately made by another material such as metal and can be fixed to the air duct 3.

Please replace page 8, lines 3-8 with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

~~Since the~~ The air outlet port 2b of the case 2a and the second end 3b of the air duct 3 are air-tightly connected by engaging the flange portion 3c with the guide portion 2c. Therefore, sealing members or packing are not required between the connecting portions of the case 2a and the air duct 3. Accordingly, the numbers of parts and working steps reduce.